

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the above-captioned application. By this amendment, claims 1-14 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended. Claims 13 and 14 have been added.

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner granted a personal interview with the Applicants' representative on April 5, 2006. In the interview as summarized in the Interview Summary presented to Applicants' representative on April 5, 2006, the Examiner agreed that applied U.S. Patent No. 5,198,746 to Gyugi et al. does not teach the steps recited in independent claim 1.

Based on the Examiner's agreement that the Gyugyi et al. patent does not disclose all of the features recited in independent claim 1, the rejections of claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9 and 10 are respectfully requested to be withdrawn. Applicants respectfully submit that all of claims 1-14 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request notification to that effect.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, or should the Examiner believe a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contact at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

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